16

A COLLECTION

Of Several

LETTERS

AND

DECLARATIONS;

SENT BY

General Monck

Unto the Lord *Lambert*, the Lord *Fleetwood*, and the rest of the *General Council* of *Officers* in the

ARMY.

AS ALSO,

Unto
- That part of the *Parliament*, called the *Rump*.
- The *Committee of Safety*, so called.
- The *Lord Mayor* and *Common Council* of the City of *London*.
- The Congregated *Churches* in and about *London*.

LONDON, Printed in the Year, 1660.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

A LETTER FROM General Monck TO KING CHARLES.

May it please your Majesty.

SEeing it hath pleased God out of his gracious will and pleasure, to cause me to cast my Eye upon this Commonwealth of *England*, my native Country, (and your three Kingdomes;) and viewing there, to behold the sad and lamentable condition, that now, and for many years past, it hath been intangled in; which as Reason and Conscience together perswades me, is occasioned chiefly for want of its ancient and ever customed way of Government, (to wit) a King and Parliament, which hath been unseeded altogether amongst us, ever since the unhappy death of your Majesties late father our King; by reason whereof, our ancient and accustomed wholesome Laws both of Church and State, are most strangely torn and massacred; and all through the self-seeking ends of some certain persons, which at present I judge not fit herein to be communicated, who having gotten the power of the sword in their hands, thought for ever to rule and reign over their opposers; (I think in spight of God or man:) But of late some of those (I hope I may truly bless the name of the Lord for it,) who were the chief Rulers of those unhappy Differences between our King, and his three poor distracted Kingdomes, are taken out of this World; insomuch, that the Power of those remaining, is much weakened; But yet they will (I perceive) seek to tread in the self same steps of them that have gone before them, as seeking only to set up their own Interest, although

although to the utter ruine of the Nation. Studying how of littleneſs to become great, hating the name of a King, but would joyfully imbrace the power thereof, (yea, I may ſay, they ſeek far more Power, than ever our late King did take upon him,) and all this done under the zealous pretence of Saintſhip and Religion; the form or manner whereof is plainly manifeſted by their tollerating and ſetting up of ſtrange Sects of Religion, as *Anabaptiſts*, *Quakers*, and ſuch like, ſeeking utterly to deſtroy and pull down, our antient Orthodox Divines, unleſs timely prevented. I queſtion not but your Majeſty is very well knowing of the Power, which for ſome few years paſt, I have had in governing the *Engliſh* Army here in *Scotland*; which Power, when I had once obtained, I did reſolve, as much as in me lay, to keep, until a fit time and opportunity ſhould offer it ſelf, that I might imploy it for the glory of God, and the good of your Majeſty, whoſe faithful Subject I humbly acknowledge my ſelf to be. Now ſo it is, may it pleaſe your Majeſty, I plainly ſeeing, and with a ſad heart beholding the threatning hand of the Lords ſevere Judgements ſtretched forth againſt theſe three Kingdoms, which forthwith muſt, and will inevitably fall heavy upon us, (for ought as can be imagined, to the utter ruin both of King and *Subjects*) unleſs ſuddenly prevented by our humble ſubmiſſion to the Lord, and an unfeigned Repentance of our former miſcarriages. May it alſo pleaſe your Majeſty to give me leave to acquaint you, that I humbly conceive, I had never a better opportunity of doing my Country ſervice, (in freeing them from their *Egyptian* bondage, as I may term it,) and in reſtoring the Crown to the right owner thereof; which if poſſible to be done, ſhall be done with as much care, ſafety, and diligence, as God ſhall enable me, and that with as little wrong as may be either to King or *Subjects*; which work when it is perfected, I hope will tend to the ſettlement of our ancient Proteſtant Religion: In tender conſideration of all which Premiſes, I moſt humbly beg that high favour of your Majeſty, that you will be graciouſly pleaſed, to permit me to make theſe Propoſals following. Firſt, whether your Majeſty will be pleaſed, to accept of the real endeavours of me your unworthy Subject and Servant to be imployed in being

ing a means in helping your Majeſty to a quiet and ſafe poſſeſſion of three Kingdoms; which have (with violence) been ſo long time withheld from you? If yea, Then, Will your Majeſty be pleaſed, to conſent to a Treaty to be had between your Majeſty, and a free Parliament, which ſhall be lawfully Ejected and Choſen by the Country, whoſe care I hope will be for the chooſing of ſuch honeſt, godly, and religious men, as had no hand in the death of our late King, or ſince his death, have (by any unlawful means whatſoever) enjoyed any of his Lands, Tenements, or Rents, or the Lands, Tenements, and Rents, of the late Deans and Chapters, or any of your late ſequeſtred Subjects, or which ſince his death have appeared violent in their acting againſt Kingſhip, and conſequently againſt your Majeſty, our lawful King: Not in the leaſt that I have any malice or evil will againſt ſuch perſons, but for that my Conſcience tells me, that ſo long, as ſelf-intereſſed perſons are ſuffered to ſit in Parliament, there is little good to be expected, either for King or Kingdome; for it is a hard thing for men to act againſt their own ſelves, to the loſs of their Lands and Livings; which they ſuppoſe they have ſo honeſtly gained. If your Majeſty will be pleaſed to conſent to ſuch a Treaty, and that thereupon it may be agreed upon, that your Majeſty ſhall be reſtored to your three Kingdoms; which I queſtion not, but will be the event of ſuch a Treaty: Then I humbly beg, that your Maj. would be pleaſed to think fit to declare what mercy and pitty, you are pleaſed ſhall be ſhewn to all thoſe that have been the chief of your enemies, (whoſe blood in ſeverity of juſtice, might deſervedly be ſpilt,) upon their humble ſubmiſſion to your Majeſty, and their promiſe of future obedience; for I hope you will judge, that the onely way to joyn the hearts of the People of your three Kingdoms, to pray for your happy ſucceſs in all things; and not only ſo, but it will undoubtedly encourage them all to venter their Lives againſt all your oppoſers, if any ſhall conteſt: and alſo that your Majeſty would be pleaſed, to declare out of your gracious goodneſs, what ſatisfaction ſhall be made to the poor Common Souldiery throughout your three Kingdomes, who have been forced to take up Arms, although againſt your Majeſty, for meer neceſſity to keep them and their

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Families from ſtarving, who indeed are much behind in their pay; which will be utterly loſt and undone, unleſs your Majeſty take compaſſion upon them; which if you are pleaſed ſo to do, I queſtion not but you will find as much humility and ſubmiſſion from them, as can be expected; and for the future it will ingage them to be as ready to ſerve your Majeſty, as they were to ſerve your enemies for the time paſt: And moreover, I conceive it will be a great incouragment to them, to joyn with me in this deſign. I ſhall trouble your Majeſty with little more at preſent; But to let you know, that my hopes are, that you would be pleaſed, to have that confidence in me, as not to credit any rumours or reports, that may ſeemingly contradict what I have herein propoſed; for as for that, I would have your Majeſty to be confident, that I ſhall not value neither the ill will, or yet look upon the favour of any, who ſhall yet appear in oppoſition to a thing that I have ſo really purpoſed, ſo long as God and my Conſcience perſwades me, that in ſo doing I ſhall accompliſh a good Work both for his glory, and my Countries good: and yet I think fit to carry as fair a correſpondency as I can, with thoſe that have taken upon them the Authority in *England*: To that end, I have thoughts of going to *London* very ſuddenly, that I may ſee their actings, and order things there ſomewhat for my advantage; I humbly beg your Majeſties ſpeedy Anſwer touching theſe Propoſals: So with all ſubmiſſiveneſs, I crave your Majeſties favour, in giving me leave to ſubſcribe my ſelf,

Edenborough Decem. 30. 1659.

Your Majeſties for ever faithful and Loyal Subject,

GEORGE MONCK.

SEVERAL
LETTERS
From the Lord
Generall Monck,

Commander in Chief of the forces in *Scotland*, and one of the Commissioners by Act of Parliament for the Government of this Common-wealth,

VIZ.

To Mr. SPEAKER,

To the Lord *FLEETWOOD*.

To the Lord *LAMBERT*.

Printed, Anno 1660.

BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE SPEAKER.

Right honourable,

HAving received notice, that there was a force put upon the *Parliament* on the twelfth of this instant, I have sent this Messenger to your Lordship, to know whether that force doth continue; for I am resolved by the Grace and Assistance of GOD, as a true *English-man, to stand to and assert the Liberty and Authority of* PARLIAMENT; And the Army here, (praised be *God*) is very courageous and unanimous, and *I* doubt not but to give a good accompt of this action to You. I have, according to your Act of the 11*th* instant, being constituted a Commissioner for the government of the Army, put out such persons as would not act according to your Commission: *I do call GOD to witness, That the Asserting of a Common-wealth is the only intent of my heart*, and I desire, if possible, to avoid the shedding of blood, and therefore entreat you, that there may be a good understanding between *Parliament* and *Army*; But if they will not obey Your Commands, I will not desert You, according to my Duty and Promise. Which is all at present from

Edenburgh *Your humble and faithful*

Octob. 20. *Servant;*

1659. *GEORGE MONCK.*

To the Lord *FLEETWOOD.*

Right honourable,

I *Have ſent this Meſſenger to your Lordſhip, to let you know that we have received notice, that a part of the Army have put force upon the* Parliament, *which they ſo lately called together, and owned with the greateſt Teſtimonies of Obedience and Repentance for their former Apoſtacy* from them; *I hope your Lordſhip will not abet an Action of ſuch a dangerous and deſtructive Conſequence; I know that you love the Liberty and Peace of* England *ſo well, That you will uſe your beſt Care, That Attempts of this nature be ſuppreſſed. I do therefore humbly intreat you, that* the Parliament may be ſpeedily reſtored to that Freedom, which they enjoyed on the 11*th* of this inſtant, *Otherwiſe I am reſolved, by the Aſſiſtance of God, with the Army under my Command,* to declare for them, *and to* proſecute this juſt Cauſe to the laſt drop of my Blood; *I bleſs the Lord, that the Officers here are very unanimous: and for ſuch, whoſe hearts fail them, or which will not act according to their Commiſſions from the* Parliament, *I having Authority as one of the Seven Commiſſioners appointed by Act of* Parliament, *do conſtitute ſuch as are chearful for* this Good Old Cauſe, *till the Parliaments pleaſure be further known; And I do plainly aſſure your Lordſhip, that I was never better ſatisfied in the juſtice of any Engagement than in this: You cannot but remember that God hath already ſhewed Himſelf glorious in it,* and determined the quarrel on this ſide, againſt Arbitrary power of raiſing Money without the Peoples conſent firſt had, *and the* manage ment of the Militia by any other then the Parliament. *I deſire your Lordſhip not to be concluded by the ſpecious pretences of any ambitious perſon what ever, and do not bring all the blood that will be ſhed upon your own head; Pray Lord conſider how you will anſwer to the dreadful God for the ruine of three Nations, for to ſerve a luſt or to gratifie a paſſion: For my particular, I am aſhamed of theſe confuſions and Changes that we have made that we are now become a scorn and a reproach to our very friends, and deſigned to ruine by all our Neighbours. I take God*

to

to witnesse, that I have no further ends then the *establishing of* Parliamentary Authority, *and those good Laws that our Ancestors have purchased with so much blood*, the setling the Nations in a free Common-wealth, and the defence of godlines and godly men, though of different Judgment; And I take my self so far obliged, being in the Parliaments Service, to stand, though alone, in this Quarrell, *And I doubt not but your Lordship, having the fear of God in your heart will carefully consider of this matter: which is all at present from*

Edinb. *Octob.* 20. 1659. Your Excellencies humble servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

To the Lord *LAMBERT.*

Right honourable,

HAying notice, that a part of the Army under the Parliaments Command, have, contrary to their duty, put force upon them; I have therefore sent this Messenger to your Lordship, to intreat you to be an instrument of Peace and good understanding between Parliament and Army: for, if they shall continue this Force, I am resolved with the assistance of God, and that part of the Army under my Command, to stand by them, *and assert their lawful Authority.* For Sir, the Nation of *England* will not endure *any Arbitrary Power neither will any true English-man in the Army, so that such a design will be ruinous and destructive*; Therefore I do earnestly intreat you, that we may not be a scorne to all the world, and a Prey to our enemies, *that the Parliament may be speedily restored to their Freedom which they enjoyed on the 11th of this instant. Which is all at present from*

Your Lordships humble servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

A LETTER OF THE OFFICERS of the ARMY in SCOTLAND, under the Commander in Chief there,

To the OFFICERS of the Army in ENGLAND.

Dear Brethren and Friends,

THis is, of all the dayes of Trouble God hath brought upon us, the saddest that ever our Eyes saw in these poor Nations; We have had to do often with the Common Enemy, but never before engaged against our Friends, the very thoughts of which is a wound deeper in our Spirits than the sword can make in our Bowels.

Above all things therefore it is our earnest Prayer, and shall be our endeavour, to *Reconcile* the differences in that which to our Consciences seemes the most equitable and just *Medium* for us to agree in, namely, To intreat you (as we have interposed with the superiour Officers of the Army) to labour a due understanding between your selves and the Parliament, the necessity and equity of which requeſt we cannot but believe you must subscribe to, if you seriously consider a few Propoſals.

1. Whether the asserting of a free Parliament, duly qualified, of faithfull men to GOD, and his people in these Nations, to be the *Supream Legislative Authority* of these Nations, was not the *Good Old Cause* we fought for, as that onely which vindicated in Spirituals our Consciences from Imposition upon them, contrary to the Liberty of the Subjects of JESUS CHRIST, and our Persons, and Estates, and Posterity in *Civils*, from the Usurpations of the

the late King upon the Liberties and ancient Rights of the Free-born People of *England*.

2. Whether it be not the only vindication of your late laying aside the Son and Succeſſor of our old General, becauſe you did verily believe, as you have proteſted to the world, *That the Government of any ſingle perſon might in time, ruine the aforementioned Liberiyes, purchaſed by our Blood, and the vaſt Treaſures of this Commonwealth; Monarchy, however bounded, neceſſarily requiring Uniformity as to Religion, and* Prerogative *as to Civil, both which muſt needs be oppreſſive and deſtructive to our Conſciences and Rights.*

3. Whether, when you ſet up again this *Famous Old Parliament*, you did not believe in your Conſcinces that it was a Return to the *Good Old Cauſe*, from which you had Apoſtatized, and the beſt Expedient to heal the ſad breaches of this poor Commonwealth, which the Luſts of men have made; witneſs your Declaration preſented by the Lord *Lambert*, and the reſt (the ſixth of *May*) to the Speaker, as the Repreſentee of the Houſe.

4. Whether, this Parliament hath ever yet endangered or diſowned you, or the Nation in theſe Great Ends (*which can only acquit all the bloodſhed from Murther*) your Liberties as *Engliſhmen* and your Priviledges as Chriſtians, but rather have given ſecurity for both, in ſuch Votes as they had time to paſs, by ſuch promiſes as they are too honeſt to forget, and by a Progreſs large enough, conſidering the Confuſions and Difficulyes they found the Government in, by our ſetting up the things, of which we are now aſhamed.

5. Whether, if your Conſciences be better informed, it can ſatisfie ours, or any Chriſtian Conſciences in the Nation, to act according to your particular apprehenſions, when we ſee them croſs ſo much the plain Rule of the Word; which, as it requires obedience to all Authority, ſo, much more to that which is aſſerted and ſetled upon the ſureſt Foundation of the Peoples Rights, and to which you are ſo ſolemnly engaged by Proteſtations, as in the preſence of God, *who will not hold them guiltleſs that takes his Name in vaine.*

6. 'Whether, if upon this occaſion of our Diſſentings, the 'Common Enemy ſhould ariſe with a ſtronger party, and make uſe

of

'of our Divisions to yoak us in bondage worse than ever: That 'their little finger should be heavier than the Loins of those pre-'ceded them, the people of these Nations would not have sad 'Cause to leave at your doors the blood of those Innocents they 'must sacrifice to their Cruelty, Considering especially that the Redemption of these old Usurpations, must be by the Heads of Gods People, and bring worse upon us, the blood of Saints, whose death is precious in the sight of the Lord. We beg you therefore, to lay to heart the Premisses, and believe we are not men of such Consciences, as cannot close with this Action and Acquiesce in it, But would cordially desire, that God may humble us for the evil of our wayes, That in making Peace with Him, we may Unite in love to each other? And we shall also assure you, that though the present Emergency hath made our Commander in chief, to put some of the Officers from their Commands, whose actings have not been such as might promise they can cordially joyn in this business, yet he hath continued to them their Sallaries out of the Contingencies of the Army, till the Parliaments pleasure be further known: And we shall also assure you, That whatever endeavours may be for the setling of *this Parliament again in a free capacity to Act for us in these Nations*, we shall be as ready as you to bear a Testimony against them suitable to our station, if they should violate the so often promised and engaged for Liberties of these Nations, whether Spiritual or Civil, There being a witness against them in their late Votes, that the *Representative* of the people, is entrusted not for the Ruine, but the safety of the Commonwealth.

Linlithgow,
Octob. 22.
1659.

Signed in the Name, and by the appointment of the Officers of the Army in Scotland.

WILLIAM CLARKE,
SECRETARY.

To the Right Honourable the Lord *Fleetwood*, to be Communicated to the Officers of the Army in and about *London*.

A SECOND

LETTER

TO THE

Lord Fleetvvood.

SIR,

VVE think fit to acquaint you, that the Lord has so prosper'd our endeavours here, that my Lord General *Monck* and the Officers have accepted of our Overtures of mediation, and they have appointed Col. *Wilkes*, Lieutenant Col. *Clobery*, and Major *Knight*, to repair to *London* Commissioners, to treat with the like number of Officers there for a firm peace and unity amongst the Forces of both Nations; for which we doubt not but the prayers of all good men will be poured forth to the Throne of Grace. We have prevailed with my Lord General to dispatch Order this night to his remotest Quarters, that they advance not further Southwards during this Treaty, and we desire you will do the like, that none of yours may march more Northward then they are; And truly for as much as we can perceive, none of these Forces had so hastily marched out of *Scotland*, if yours had not gathered this way. In a few dayes we shall see you, and in the mean time desire you to believe we are,

Sir, Your affectionate Servants,

Dalkieth this 4th of *Novemb.* 659.

Thomas Clarges,
Thomas Talbot.

GENERAL MONCKS LAST LETTER TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE Lord Fleetwood.

My Lord,

AFter I had answered the Letter your Lordship did me the favour to send me by Col. *Talbot*, I received another from your Lordship, of the 29*th* of *October*, wherein your Lordship is pleased to express much of your Lordships Affection and Friendship to me, for which I shall ever acknowledge my self engaged to you; but truly I must assure your Lordship, no personal Discouragements (although I have had my share of them) have induced me to the Justification I make of the *Parliaments Authority*, but the tie of duty to which I am in my Conscience obliged, and I shall be heartily sorry, if your Lordship makes any other Interpretation of it, for your Lordship knows my Command has been offered often up to those that had power to place it better: We are all I bless the Lord, very unanimous here, and I am confident when the

the Gentlemen we ſend from hence have given your Lordſhip a true underſtanding of our actions, you will not have ſo ſevere an opinion of them, as you ſeem to have in your late Letters: The perſons names are, Col. *Wilkes*, Lieut. Col. *Clobery*, and Major *Knight*, all well known to your Lordſhip, to whom I beſeech your Lordſhip to give credit, in what they ſhall propoſe from the Army here, and I beſeech you to believe, I am ſtill with a ſincere heart,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhips very humble ſervant,

GEORGE MONCK.

A Letter ſent by General MONCK

to Vice Admiral *GOODSON*, to be communicated to the reſt of the Officers of the Fleet, in anſwer to a Letter with ſome Propoſals lately ſent to him from Them.

Dear Country-men and Commanders,

I Am glad that you have not forgotten your old friend, and that by this occaſion, I have ſuch advantage to hear of your hearty affections to me, and kind remembrance of me, and that you have ſuch a deep ſence of the diviſions amongſt us, and the miſerable conſequence thereof; but I am very much ſadded that you have entertained ſuch miſtakes and miſapprehenſions of our proceedings. Theſe encloſed Papers will fully ſatisfie you, that we have juſt grounds of diſſatisfaction, and that we cannot comply with ſuch violent and unwarrantable undertakings, both againſt our reaſon as men, and againſt our Conſciences as Chriſtians, that you and we ſhould take our Commiſſions and pay from the *Parliament*, and yet to violate their Authority, after ſuch ſolemn aſſurances of obedience and faithfulneſs, contrary to the expreſſed word of God, and our own late Addreſſes. I hope I am ſo well known to ſome of you, *that I am none of thoſe that ſeek great things to my ſelf*, or delight in the ſhedding the blood of *Engliſh* men, much leſſe of Chriſtian

 Brethren

Brethren, but to preſerve the name of God from Blaſphemy and Reproach, which our actings (I wiſh I could not call them treacheſouſneſs and perfidiouſneſs have occaſioned; whereby Jeſus Chriſt and his truth have been evil ſpoken of, which makes our very lives bitter to us, *and to aſſert the integrity and honour of this Army, which is very dear to me*, I have been forced with the Parliaments Army under my command, (though with much grief of heart) to bear our Teſtimony againſt the late violence of the Army; and the reaſons thereof you will find in our printed papers, and our endeavours to perſwade them in *England* to remove that force which they have put upon *the Parliament*. As to your Propoſals, I beſeech you ſeriouſly to conſider and lay to heart theſe following Anſwers.

1. To the firſt, you are pleaſed to intimate the joy of the Cavaliers that they ſee us ſtand to our Declaration, but I believe, that this violent interruption *of the Parliament was the greateſt* courteſie to gratefie that *Family and Intereſt* that could be imagined in the World, (*and I could wiſh it were not deſigned*). I ſhould be very ſad to ſtrengthen the hands of the *Wicked*, but let me aſſure you, this ariſeth from the ſlanders and calumnies which men caſt upon us in *England*, as if *we that aſſert the Authority of thoſe that brought the late King to the Block, are for introducing that Family*, which I take *God to witneſs, we in our very thoughts abhor, and ſhall ſpend our blood in oppoſition to any Single perſon whatſoever.*

2. You are pleaſed to compare our preſent differences to that of the *Iſraelites*, with the two Tribes of *Reuben, Gad*, and halfe the Tribe of *Manaſſes*) and I earneſtly pray that there may be the ſame iſſue, for if they will reſtore *theſe perſons* to their *lawfull Authority, which have been eſtabliſhed by many ſucceſſes*, and for the difference of which they ſo lately hazarded to blood *we ſhall quietly ſit down and wait upon the Providences of God in our places and Stations*, and to this end we have ſent Commiſſioners into *England* men faithfull and approved. What you are pleaſed to inſtance concerning my ſatisfaction in the year 1653. When this Parliament was interrupted formerly, I ſhall anſwer you to that, it was never in my Conſcience to go out of Gods way under the pretence of doing Gods work, and you know the variety of times doth much vary the nature of affaires, and what might then patiently be ſubmitted unto, we being engaged with a forraign Enemy in a bloody War,

unto

cannot be drawn into a prefident at this time; after our Repentance and aſſurance of Loyalty and Conſtancy; you may be pleaſed to remember *that the conſequence of the former Interruption was the Introduction of a ſingle perſon, and a manifeſt breach of all our promiſes and engagements*, ſo that if God bleſſed me with ſucceſs, then I do much more through mercy expect it now, when I put all to hazzard for the Glory of God and the good of his people.

3. I do acknowledge that the Army hath been in the hand of God and inſtruments of good to theſe Nations, yet if they ſhall apoſtate from the Cauſe of God and his people in expoſing them to Arbitrary Power, and the wills of men, in taking upon them to Abolliſh Lawes, raiſe money without conſent of the people, deſtroy Miniſtery and property, and force Parliaments, I cannot but witneſs againſt ſuch proceedings as unwarrantable not ſuited to any rule either from God or man.

4. *I have taken care by Garriſons in this Country, and aſſurance from the whole body of the Nation, that they will not own the intereſt of* Charles Stewart., and that they will preſerve the peace of the Commonwealth in obedience to the parliament; So that if that part of the Army in *England* will ſet up a diſtinct intereſt in the Nation, in deſerting that Cauſe that hath been ſo precious to us, and coſt ſo much blood and treaſure for to eſtabliſh their own Intereſt and greatneſs. I do declare in the preſence of the Great God I cannot own you, nor Ioyn with them; Now having opened my heart to you and as you know my plainneſs and ſincerity, that I am none of thoſe that dare aſſert any thing againſt my Conſcience, from that experience ye have had of me, I heartily begg your belief and credit, that I ſhall keep in the way of duty, and endeavour to do the Lords work in my Generation, and ſhall not own any corrupt intereſt whatſoever, and do deſire of God his bleſſing according to my Integrity in this undertaking, having this good Teſtimony in my own Spirit, that I have nothing but publick and Righteous ends upon my heart, and by all theſe reſpects and kindneſſes that I have received from you, I deſire you will joyn with us in your deſires that *this Parliament* may be reſtored to the excution of their duties and truſt, with freedome and honour; I have no more but my hearty Love and ſervice to you all, deſiring God to bleſs you all, and make you happy inſtruments for the good

of

these Nations in your severall places which shall be alwayes the Prayer of dear Friends.

Edenburgh, Novemb. 29. 1659. *Your humble Servant and fellow Souldier,* G. M.

To the Right Honourable Vice Admiral Goodson, *to be Communicated to the rest of the Officers of the Fleet, in Answer to the Letter that was sent to me from them.*

A

LETTER

Of General

George Moncks,

Dated at *Leicester* 23 *January*, and directed unto Mr. *Rolle* to be communicated unto the rest of the Gentry of *Devon*: occasioned by a late Letter from the Gentry of *Devon* dated at *Exceter* 14 *January*, and sent by Mr. *Bampfield* to the Speaker; to be communicated unto the Parliament.

Read in Parliament Jan. 26.

Most honoured and dear Friends,

MEeting with a Paper dated at *Exon* the 13 instant, directed to *William Lenthal* Esq; Speaker of the Parliament, and subscribed by

by divers of my friends and relations, purporting the recalling the Members secluded 1648. as the best expedient for establishing these Nations upon a foundation of lasting peace. I have taken the boldness from my relation to some of you as allyed, and my affectionate respects to all of you as dear Friends and Countrey-men, to represent to your considerarion my present apprehensions of the state of Affairs here, in order to all our better satisfactions; wherein I humbly crave your leave of freedom without prejudice.

Before these unhappy Wars the Government of these Nations was Monarchical in Church and State: these wars have given birth and growth to several Interests both in Church and State heretofore not known; though now upon many accounts very considerable, as the *Presbyterian*, *Independent*, *Anabaptist* and *Sectaries* of all sorts as to Ecclesiasticks; and the Purchasers of the Kings, Queens, Princes, Bishops, Deans and Chapters, and all other forfeited Estates; and all those engaged in these Wars against the King as to civils. These Interests again are so interwoven by Purchases and intermarriages, and thereby forfeited; as I think upon rational grounds it may be taken for granted; *That no Government can be either good, peaceful or lasting to these Nations, that doth not rationally include and comprehend the security and preservrtion of all the foresaid Interests both Civil and Spiritual; I mean so far as by the Word of God they are warranted to be protected and preserved. If this be so, Then that Government under which we formerly were both in State and Church*, viz. *Monarchy cannot possibly be admitted for the future in these Nations, because its support is taken away, and because its exclusive of all the former Interests both Civil and Spiritual, all of them being incompatible with Monarchical Vniformity in Church and State thus expired.* That *Government then that is most able to comprehend and protect all Interests as aforesaid must needs be Republique.*

Wherefore to me it's no small doubt, if upon the Premises to admit of the Members secluded 1648. were not to obstruct our peace and continue our War, rather than establish the one, and end the other; in that very many of those Members assert the Monarchical Interest, together with the abolition of all Laws made since

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their ſecluſion ; Which I fear upon accompt of ſelf-preſervation both of Life and *Eſtate* as well as Spiritual Liberty, will immediatly involve all theſe Nations in moſt horrid and bloody War afreſh; *the very apprehenſions whereof, I confeſs, I do infinitely dread*, and ſubmit the dangerous conſequence thereof to your prudent conſiderations ; and the rather, ſeeing the Army alſo will never endure it.

Having thus briefly laid before you the preſent condition of Affairs, let me now intreat you to conſider whither it were not better to deſiſt from that Paper, and ſubmit to the proceedings of this *Parliament*, who have reſolved to fill up their Houſe, determin their ſitting, and prepare a way for future ſucceſſions of Parliament ; by which means being full, and thereby comprehending the whole Intereſt of theſe Nations, they may through God's Mercy, and all our patiences, eſtabliſh ſuch a Government in the *way of a Commonwealth*, as may be comprehenſive of all Intereſts both Spirituall and Civil, to the glory of God, and the weale and peace of the whole. But if by your impatiencies they be obſtructed, *our peace will be ſo much the longer a ſtranger to us* ; and we thereby a prey to our ſelves, and all forreign Enemies. Wherefore humbly preſſing theſe upon your ſerious conſiderations with all the friendly and affectionate reſpects and ſervice to you all, I remain

Deareſt Friends,

Your very humble and affectionate

Leiceſter, 21. *Jan.* 1659.

Servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

For the honoured Robert Rolles *Eſq; to be communicated to the Gentlemen of* Devonſhire, *who ſigned the late Letter to the Speaker of the* Parliament *of the Common-wealth of* England.

A LETTER FROM THE Officers at Whitehal To the OFFICERS under General Monck In SCOTLAND.

Dear Brethen and Fellow Souldiers,

WE most heartily wish Grace and Truth to be multiplied unto you, through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord; And also we desire the God and Father of all Grace, to add to your Faith, Vertue; & to Vertue, Knowledg; and to Knowledge, Temperance; and to Temperance, Godliness; and to Godliness, Brotherly Kindness; and to Brotherly Kindness, Charity.

Dear Brethren, We cannot but be deeply affected and afflicted in our own spirits, to consider of your dissatisfaction with us upon mistaken grounds You have known us this many years to be your faithful Brethren, that durst do nothing that is sinful; And we may affirm with plainness, honesty and simplicity of heart, we have done nothing in the late Revolution, but that which the Providence of the most wise God prepared to our

hands, and led us unto, without ſo much as one half hours time to deſign or reſolve to take that courſe we were neceſſitated unto; Since which moſt of ſuch perſons that were not clear in the preſent and ſudden Action, have made their acknowledment of their full ſatisfaction, and we are mutually reconciled, and they are received and tendered by us as affectionate Brethren: And for a more full Narrative of the providential Grounds, and gradual Steps that led us to that Work, yet (with aking hearts) and as an Anſwer to your Queries, ſigned in your name by *William Clerk*, Secretary, bearing date the 22. inſtant, We refer you to a Book, Intituled, *The Armies Plea*, and alſo, *The Armies Declaration*, relation thereunto being had, we hope will give you ſatisfaction.

Loving Brethren, What have we done that you are offended? we are not conſcious that any thing is acted by us upon the publick Theater, but that which we judge is acceptable to God: And what we have done hath proceeded from uprightneſs of heart, and for the glory of God, the good of his Intreſt, Cauſe, and People in theſe Nations: Nothing leſs than theſe worthy ends could have cauſed us to adventure our *All*, that is dear to us for your and their ſakes; And after ſuch a hazard, our Brethren to look ſhy upon us, yea ſuch, with whom we have lived, and converſed together, prayed, fought, and jeoparded our lives together, and witneſſes together of the glory of the moſt high God. in the high places of the field; Yea, we that are of one Society, of one Family and Houſhold, that none hitherto (through the grace of God could diſ-unite us) now to be at a diſtance with us, is the greateſt wound to us, which is unexpreſſable: If it had been from our Enemies, we could have born it; Oh but, they are the wounds of the houſe of our Friends. And all this ariſing without dealing brotherly with us, and without ſo much as ſending to know the providential Grounds that led us to theſe Undertakings: And likewiſe your and our unhappineſs hath been poſſibly by miſ-informations received by thoſe who have correſponded with the principal occaſioners of this Breach; However we are cenſured by you, we ſhall, we hope, carry Chriſtianly and Brotherly towards you, and exerciſe our ſelves in the Doctrine of our Saviour, *If any be overtaken in a fault, reſtore*

ſuch

ſuch a one in the ſpirit of meekneſs, knowing alſo, we are ſubject to like temptations: And we ought to pitty and pray for one another, and forgive one another, *even as God for Chriſts ſake hath forgiven us*; We hope the fear of God will guide you, ſo that you may do nothing to grieve Him and his little Flock, and rejoyce the common Enemy abroad and at home, nor give them advantages to make a prey of theſe poor Nations: What can you propound to your ſelves? If you are for good things, ſo are we; if for a Free-State and Common-wealth, ſo are we; if againſt a Single Perſon, ſo are we; if for Reformation, ſo are we; if for Godlineſs, and the Nations to be exalted in Righteouſneſs, ſo are we; Why do we differ in the form and way to it? Oh, dear friends if you ſhould precipitately engage into a War, and ſhould Conquer your Brethren, would not the conſequence be a Conqueſt over your ſelves, and all the good People of the Land? And if they are gone, certainly (if you retain your old Principles) you would not deſire to live long after them.

Dearest Brethren, We commend unto you that place of Scripture, *Joſh.* 1. 14, 15. We ſhall with our bended knees implore the God of Heaven, and King of Saints, to guide you, and perſwade you as holy *Noah* ſaid in another caſe, *Gen.* 9. 27. *God ſhall perſwade* Japhet *to dwell in the tents of Shem.* Finally, Brethren, farewel, *Be of good comfort, Let us be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace ſhall be with you and us:* We remain,

Your moſt affectionate Brethren,
and Fellow-Souldiers.

Dear Friends, We hope to hear in your Anſwer to this, that all our dear Friends now in Bonds, are at Liberty, and that the Lord hath ſatisfied your hearts to acquieſce in his preſent Diſpenſations, ſo as we may not expoſe each other to further Inconvenience.

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ſuch a one in the ſpirit of meekneſs, knowing alſo, we are ſubject to like temptations: And we ought to pitty and pray for one another, and forgive one another, *even as God for Chriſts ſake hath forgiven us*; We hope the fear of God will guide you, ſo that you may do nothing to grieve Him and his little Flock, and rejoyce the common Enemy abroad and at home, nor give them advantages to make a prey of theſe poor Nations: What can you propound to your ſelves? If you are for good things, ſo are we; if for a Free-State and Common-wealth, ſo are we; if againſt a Single Perſon, ſo are we; if for Reformation, ſo are we; if for Godlineſs, and the Nations to be exalted in Righteouſneſs, ſo are we; Why do we differ in the form and way to it? Oh, dear friends if you ſhould precipitately engage into a War, and ſhould Conquer your Brethren, would not the conſequence be a Conqueſt over your ſelves, and all the good People of the Land? And if they are gone, certainly (if you retain your old Principles) you would not deſire to live long after them.

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A RETURN OF THE General & Officers IN SCOTLAND,

To the aforesaid LETTER of the OFFICERS at *Whitehall.*

Dear Brethren, and Fellow Souldiers in the Lord,

IN the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, We return you our most hearty wishes and prayers, That Grace, and Truth, and Peace also might be multiplied unto you: And that to your Faith, and your Vertue, and your Knowledge, and your Temperance, and your Godliness, and your brotherly Kindness, and your Charity, might be added, Patience, and Meekness, and Humility, and Self-denial. Great are the thoughts of our hearts, for the divisions in *Reuben*, and we are (as you express it) deeply affected and afflicted in our own spirits, when we consider what cause we have to be dissatisfied with you, our dear Brethren; you, with whom we have lived and conversed together; with whom we have prayed and fought, and jeoparded our lives together; with whom we have taken sweet Counsel, and walked together in the House of God as Friends: But we cannot conceal from you that our Affection and

and Affliction of ſpirit is much increaſed by the Letter you ſent us by Captain *Deane*, and by the Books you referred us to in that Letter. We had before ſome ſmall (indeed our onely) hopes that there might be ſome miſtake between us; but alas! We cannot but now think (ſince we find you have no more to ſay for your ſelves) that Our fears were but too true, & the Cauſes of our Diſſatisfaction at your preſent actings but too juſt: We ſhall deal with you with that plainneſs and freedom, and ſincerity that becometh Brethren, for ſo we think it becometh us, *To fulfil all Righteouſneſs*: And ſo we think it expedient both for you and us, that We may the ſooner come to a right underſtanding one of another.

We could not be ſatisfied that there was any ſuch need of more General Officers (the firſt occaſion of this unhappy difference) as that the Parliament ſhould be preſſed to it ſo unſeaſonably, and ſo juſt a jealouſie created in them, that there was a Deſign to ſet up a Single Perſon (of which they had but ſo late, and ſo ſad experience) and we could not but think it ſufficient for the ſecurity of the good Intereſt, that the Army was united under one head, the Parliament.

We were leſs ſatisfied, that after you declared your Satisfaction and Acquieſcence in the Votes of the Houſe, you ſhould endeavour by a new way to wreſt the Power out of their own hands, and to proſecute the ſame Deſigne; This making the Army a Corporation in a manner Independent from the Civil Power, and creating to it an Intereſt, diſtinct from that of the Peoples, by whom they hitherto have, and ſtill muſt live, and for whom they are by their Engagements and Duties bound to dye: and that after you knew the Parliament had in effect diſapproved your Petition, you ſhould ſtill endeavour to get more hands to it, which neither the Parliament, nor we our ſelves could look upon any otherwiſe, then as a deſign to force the Parliament to grant what they had already in effect diſapproved, if not to do that which you ſay was done, at leſs then half an hours warning.

But then that after the ſad experience of ſo many confuſions & toſſings, which theſe poor Nations had already felt by ſuch actings as theſe, after the unhappy (& ſince acknowledged unlawful) former interruption of that (by your ſelves called) *famous long*

Parliament, after the Confusions and Distractions of that *little one* of your own, and not of the Peoples choosing; after the occasion by them given to some of setting up, and the necessity imposed on us of accepting a Single Person, contrary to our former Engagements, and to our Interests; after our late renewed Engagement, and our solemn and serious expressions of Repentance, That you should so soon return to your former sin, and for the apparent interest of nine or ten Persons (who how pretious soever, yet cannot be worth the blood that may be shed in this quarrel) to put a new force upon the Parliament, and to destroy all Lawful Authority in the three Nations, and to put them out of hopes of ever having any for the future, but what shall be at your disposals; and to do these things in the Name of the whole Army, thereby usurping a Power over your Brethren, to which you have no right, and involving us in the same guilt with yours in the same actings, against which we are bound to protest before God and man: This is that which lieth the forest upon our Spirits; This is that which wounds us deepest

This is that which must of necessity make the three Nations slaves to the Army, the Armies of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, slaves to that of *England*, and that of *England* to nine or ten Persons, and perhaps in short time those nine or ten, to one single One: The best effect it can have must be that which you so much complain of in the *Armies Plea*, page 25.

That all the pious and good People of this Nation shall not enjoy a peaceable and quiet life in all Godliness and Hodesty, but onely some part of them.

We cannot but in the Name of the Lord tell you, that these Actings make us stink in the nostrils of the good People, and cause the Name of God to be evil spoken of, and his Enemies to rejoice.

And yet you say, Behold, what we have done? and tell us in many, but very general terms, what good things you are for: We likewise are for good things as well as you; We are for a Free-State and Commonwealth as well as you; We are against a single Person as well as you; We are for Reformation as well as you; We are as well as you for Godliness and the Nations to be exalted in Righteousness; if so be that you be indeed for these things which you pretend, and that we differ not in the end as well as in the way to it!

But

But how can you be for good things, as long as you do that which is Evil? How can you be for a Free State and Commonwealth, if for the Intereſt of nine or ten Perſons you diſſolve Parliaments? To what purpoſe is it to be againſt a ſingle Perſon, if you be for nine or ten; or for Reformation, if you return ſo ſoon to former ſins? Or, how can Godlineſs or Righteouſneſs be exalted, by violent and unwarrantable means?

Brethren, Our daily prayer to God is, That we may not be neceſſitated to War with you; but if we be, we muſt tell you that we do not precipitate our ſelves, or run raſhly or inconſiderately into it; We have had time, ſadly and ſeriouſly to conſider the whole Matter, and we muſt deal plainly with you, and tell you, that what you pretend, you had not half an hours time to deliberate about, We have expected from you ſome weeks; We could not but take notice that the occaſion both of Calling and interrupting this Parliament, was, the making of General Officers.

How little deſire we have of making a conqueſt over you, He knows who knows how little joy we ſhould take in it; If there were not ſomething in the Quarrel that is dearer to us than our lives, we ſhould never undertake it.

And now Brethren, as yet dear and precious in our eyes, we beſeech you for the mercies of Jeſus Chriſt to lay theſe things to heart, and as we have done with, *Joſh.*1.14. 15. ſo to reflect ſeriouſly upon *Joſh.*7. Verſe 19. and once more to take the ſhame to your ſelves, and *to repent with a repentance not to be repented of.* Conſider whoſe blood is to be ſhedd on both ſides, what cauſe it is that lies at ſtake, who they are that are like to reap the benefit of our Contentions: Suffer not *Self* or *Intereſt*, nor deſire of the things of this world, to intangle you again in the ſame ſnare, out of which you have ſo lately eſcaped; Lay not up your treaſure in this world, But ſeek firſt the Kingdom of Heaven; Do not evil, becauſe you think good may come of it.

Finally Brethren, ſtand faſt in that Liberty wherein Chriſt hath made you free, and be not entangled again with the Yoke of Bondage. The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt be with you, Amen.

EDINBURGH, Your moſt affectionate and afflicted Brethren, and Fellow-Souldiers.

POST-SCRIPT.

Dear Brethren,

WE intreat you not put ſo hard a Name upon the neceſſary and ſhort reſtraint of our Brethren, as Bonds; We ſtill own them and uſe them as Brethren; their Pay is ſtill continued to them, and the Reſtraint put upon them, for their and your, and our Security, and the Security of all Gods People, we hope will be very ſhort, ſhorter than either you or we can expect: And take it not ill, we acted any thing without firſt ſending to you, We acted nothing but what was neceſſary to our preſent ſafety, and we immediately ſent our Letters to you, which if they came not to your hand, it is not our faults: We have lately ſent Commiſſioners, Men faithful and approved, whom we hope you will treat as Brethren.

For the Right Honourable the Lord Fleetwood, *and the reſt of the Officers of that part of the Army at* London.

THE

THE LETTER

Of the Lord Mayor, *Aldermen, and Common Council of the* CITY *of* LONDON; *To his Excellency,* The Lord General MONCK.

Right Honourable,

WE dare not enter upon the anſwer to the merits of your Excellencies Letter of the 12th of *November*, which came to our hands the 23d of the ſame (which was the firſt and onely that came to us) without Prefacing our hearty, and thankful admiring and acknowledging the tranſcendent Mercy of God, in putting into your Heart thoſe Pious and Noble Reſolutions, to appear at ſuch an Exigent to be the glorious Inſtrument in his hand, both to Aſſert and Vindicate the greateſt Intereſt, both Civil and Religious of theſe Nations. And next, That your ſingular Humility of Spirit, and Affection to this City, in Communicating to us ſo early, thoſe your juſt Reſolves, and inviting us to ſhare in the Honour of Aſſiſting, to the obtaining of thoſe great and glorious Ends, in which the happineſs of theſe Nations in general, and of the City, as a Corporation, conſiſts.

In all which our Spirits were both enlightned & warmed by a ſpark from your zeal, and actuated by God to a preſent activity in our ſphere and capacity, in compliance with your Excellencies advice, as we truſt the whole world that hath ſeen our Actings ſince the receipt of your Letter, can bear us witneſs, and that we hope may be our ſufficient Plea for Pardon for our not returning a more timely anſwer to your Excellencies ſaid Letter. But we deſire your Excellency to believe, that was principally retarded by ſuſpition caſt on the Authentiqueneſs of it, by thoſe who had the confidence on that ſcore to impriſon the Deliverers, and

by the Interpoſition of the Forces here, and led out againſt your Excellency, who lay in the paſſage to You.

But now (may it pleaſe Your Excellency) ſeeing it hath pleaſed God in ſome meaſure to remove thoſe Obſtructions, We preſume by this to Aſſert in VVriting, what VVe hope all Our Actings, ſince the Receipt of Your Excellencies Advice, have evidenced.

That VVe have cordially concurred with your Excellency, in diſowing the Authour of that Force who interrupted the Parliament, and raviſh'd the Birth-right of theſe Nations, by daring to null and make void Acts of Parliament; and VVe think, have contributed ſomewhat by Gods bleſſing on Our Counſels, and Actings, to the preventing of the ſad Conſequences of that exorbitant preſumption. How fully and entirely VVe comply with Your Excellency, in aſſerting the Authority and Freedom of Parliaments, and the juſt Rights and Liberties of the People, a National Miniſtry, for the enlightning of the Ignorant, and ſuppreſſing of Atheiſm, VVe humbly Refer Your Excellency to Our encloſed Declaration, and do ſeriouſly aſſure Your Excellency, That VVe ſhall (by Gods aſſiſtance) perſiſt faithfully and vigorouſly in this Good Cauſe: And praying God to preſerve your Excellency, and thoſe Noble Commanders with You, in theſe Your Juſt, Honourable, and Chriſtian Undertakings, ſhall Remain,

Your Excellencies Moſt Affectionate and Faithful Friends and Servants,

Guildhall, London, Decemb. 29. 1659.

The Mayor, Aldermen, *and* Commons *of the City of* London *in* Common-Council *Aſſembled.*

In Their Names, and by Their Order,

SADLER.

This Letter is Conveighed by the Sword-bearer of London, *by the ſeveral Directions of the* Lord Mayor, Aldermen, *and Court of* Common-Council.

THE

THE LETTER

Of His EXCELLENCY, the Lord Gen. Monck,

In *ANSWER* to the former *LETTER*.

My Lord,

I Received a Letter from your Lordſhip, and the reſt of the Common-Council, of the 29*th* of *December*, and do humbly thank you for that great eſteem which you are pleaſed to put upon our poor Endeavours of the Parliaments Army under my Command, far trancending our Merits and Services. As to thoſe Ends which we then declared for, I bleſs the Lord I acted Conſcience, and I hope we were found in the way of duty, and are reſolved by the grace of God to adhere to them, having found ſuch wonderful bleſſings following us in theſe our juſt and honeſt Undertakings.

As your prudent Counſels and courageous Actings, were the great means under God of reſtoring this Parliament to its juſt and lawful Authority, ſo of the ſafety and welfare of the Nations, for which I do, for my Self and the reſt of the Officers here, return my very hearty thanks, and we ſhall have ever cauſe to bleſs the Lord for this great mercy, in putting into your hearts ſuch righteous and honourable Reſolutions, to appear at ſuch a time, when our Liberties and Properties, and all that is dear unto us, even the Ordinances of our bleſſed Saviour, were in ſuch hazard.

Indeed, it was much in our hopes, that ſuch a glorious City, that had redeemed themſelves from ſlavery at the price of ſo much blood and treaſure, and had been the great Inſtruments in the hand of God, for the carrying on the Work of Reformation, and bringing three Nations out of the Captivity of Tyranny and Arbitrary Government, could ever conſent to ſuch illegal and unjuſt proceedings. As we do acknowledge your great activity in promoting thoſe great Ends which we lately repreſented to you, ſo we do heartily thank you for the honour and encouragement, which you have been pleaſed in this your Letter to give to the Parliaments Army here; for our ſelves, we having nothing to ſeek (we bleſs the Lord) in all this Affair, but to endeavour the ſafety and Settlement of theſe Nations in general, and of the famous City in particular.

We received your encloſed Declaration, and do chearfully joyn with you therein. And I do promiſe you for the Army under my Command, that they are reſolved (by the aſſiſtance of God) to ſtand by and maintain this preſent Parliament, as it ſate on *October* 11. from whom we received our Commiſſions; and do hope, that you that have been ſo eminently Inſtrumental in their reſtoring, will heartily concur with us therein; and ſhall to the utmoſt of our power defend the freedom of ſucceſſive Parliaments, and the Liberties Spiritual and Civil of the People in theſe Nations, and ſhall encourage in our Stations, the Godly and Learned Miniſters, and ſhall continue faithful in this Good Cauſe, that the Nations may be ſtabliſhed in a Free Common-wealth, and the Army kept in due obedience to the Civil Authority.

And as we have experienced the great affection of your City in ſuch a day of Darkneſs and great Tryal, ſo we ſhall ever ſtudy to the utmoſt, to expreſs our ſervices for you, and ſhall not think our lives too precious to hazard for your welfare. I think to wait upon you ſhortly, and ſhall reſerve thoſe further acknowledgments to that opportunity, and remain,

New-Caſtle Jan. 6. 1659.

Your Lordſhips very humble Servant,

George Monck.

A

LETTER

SENT FROM

General Monck;

SUPERSCRIBED,

To the Right Honourable *William Lenthall*, Eſquire, Speaker to the Right Honourable the Parliament of ENGLAND.

To be Communicated to the reſt of the Members of Parliament at *London*.

Right Honourable,

I Received yours of the 22*d*. inſtant, and deſire to return to our good God hearty thanks, that he hath been pleaſed to own and appear for his People in ſuch glorious inſtances of Mercy and Deliverance. I bleſs the Lord, I never doubted of his preſence and ſucceſs in this undertaking, being ſo righteous a Cauſe; and had long ſince put it to Gods determination, but upon advertiſements from Friends in *England*, That if I could continue here without engaging till the firſt of *January*, the work would be done without blood. I cannot but admire upon what Intelligence you ſhould be perſwaded of a ſecond Treaty: *I*ndeed *I* was inforced to make uſe of ſuch an Overture, to remove the Commiſſioners from *London*, whom I cannot but blame for receding from their Inſtructions; but I hope

hope they will give you a ſatisfactory account of their proceedings. Yet I acknowledge that I could not but reſent their carriage, having ſecured one of them for betraying the private inſtructions; of which I doubt not but you have been fully informed.

My laſt Anſwer to the Lord *Lambert*, who ſent ſeveral Meſſengers to invite me to a ſecond Treaty, was, That I could not treat without authority from the Commiſſioners for the Government of the Army, and to that end deſired a Paſs for the ſame Meſſengers to go to *Portſmouth* to receive their Commands and Inſtructions; who was returned back with this Anſwer from *Lambert* and the Council of Officers, That they could not conſent thereunto: and ſince that, I have not heard from them.

I have your Army (I bleſs God) upon the River *Tweed*, within three hours ready to be drawn together, and they are very chearful and unanimous, willing to endure any hardſhip for your Service.

The laſt night Capt. *Campbelt* came expreſs from *Ireland*, giving a full account of their affection to the Parliament, and of the late Tranſactions there; That they had ſeized *Dublin* Caſtle, and ſecured *Jones* and others, with a Declaration to ſtand by and own your Authority: for which (on this inſtant) we kept a day of Thanſgiving. They writ alſo to the *Iriſh* Brigade in *England*, which I diſpatched to them. *Sir Hardreſs Waller* gives me an Account, that all the Forces and Garriſons in *Ireland* had Declared for you.

This is ſuch a mercy, that I hope the Lord will make us ſenſible of, and careful to improve. They required my opini on as to managing of the Affairs of the Army, which in ſuch an urgent neceſſity I preſumed to give. I have diſpoſed of moſt of the vacant Commands in *Scotland* to very honeſt men, who are ready to dye for your Service, or to disband at your Command. And before your Letter came to hand, I had diſpoſed of Col. *Saunders* and Major *Bartons* Commands the Lord *Lamberts* Forces preſſing upon me. I could not leave my vacant Places unſupplied; but I know that (this Work proſpering) you will have opportunity enough to gratifie them: Capt. *Izods* place is reſerved for him according to your pleaſure. I humbly thank

thank the Members of the Council for that Great Honour that they were pleaſed to conferr upon me, and hope you never ſhall find but ſuch an abſolute obedience from me to your Commands, that I ſhall be more ready to return that Commiſſion then to receive it. I believe that you never doubted of my perſevering in thoſe good Principles I declared for, and that I ſhould comfortably (if the Lord had pleaſed to frown upon us) have ſuffered in this moſt Righteous undertaking. I have made ready to March, but am unwilling to hazzard your Juſtice and Authority upon a Fight, when it may be done with more ſecurity. I ſhall attend your further Command, and deſire the Lord to bleſs your Forces and Counſels, and to reſtore you in your juſt Authority; which is both the Prayer and endeavour of

Sir,

Your moſt humble

and faithful Servant

GEORGE MONCK.

Caldſtream, 29. December, 1659.

POST-

POST-SCRIPT.

I thought fit to acquaint you, That my Lord *Warreſton* hath endeavoured to ſtir up the People of this Nation as much as he could againſt your Intereſt. Col. *Lyſcot* having been very faithful and active for the Parliament in this Undertaking, I entreat your Lordſhips to be mindful of him for a Regiment of Horſe. I have given him the Command of a Foot-Regiment, but he was alwayes of Horſe, and is a very honeſt and ſtout Gentleman, and fit to Command a Regiment of Horſe. I have ſent your Lordſhips the Copies of my laſt Letters, and of the Officers here, to my Lord *Lambert*, and the Officers of *Newcaſtle*; and alſo to the Commiſſioners of Parliament at *Portſmouth*, that you may be acquainted with our Tranſactions. Major *Knight* has Col. *Saunders* Regiment, and Capt. *Prime* is Major.

I entreat you to Communicate this to the reſt of the worthy Members of Parliament with you.

GEORGE MONCK.

A

LETTER

Sent by His

EXCELLENCY

The LORD

General Monck,

To the CONGREGATED

CHURCHES

In and about

LONDON.

Honoured and dear Friends,

I Received Yours, and am very ſenſible of your Kindneſs, which you have expreſſed to the *Army* in *Scotland*, in ſending down ſuch Honourable and Reverend Perſons, ſo

long and tedious a Journey, whom we have received with thankfulneſs and great joy, as your Meſſengers of the Churches, and Miniſters of Chriſt; and have taken notice of this Office of Love, and of your care of theſe three Nations. I do promiſe for my Truſt, and the reſt of the Officers here, That your Intreſt, Liberty, and Encouragement, ſhall be very dear to us; and we ſhall take this as a renewed Obligation, to Aſſert to the uttermoſt, what we have already Declared for the Churches of Jeſus Chriſt. I doubt not, but you have received Satisfaction of our Inclination to a peaceable Accommodation, and do hope that ſome Difficulties being united, we ſhall obtain a fair Compoſure.

I do aſſure you, that the great things which have been upon my heart to ſecure and provide for, are our Liberties and Freedoms, as we are the Subjects and Servants of Jeſus Chriſt, which are Conveyed to us in the Covenant of Grace, aſſured in the Promiſes, purchaſed for us by the Blood of our Saviour, and given as his great Legacy to his Churches and People; in compariſon of what, we eſteem all other things as Dung and Droſs, but as they have relation to, and dependance upon this moſt noble end: The other are our Laws and Rights as Men, which muſt have their eſteem in the ſecond place, and for which many Members of the Churches hath been eminent Inſtruments, to labour in ſweat and Blood for theſe Eighteen Years laſt paſt,

and

and our Anceſtors many hundred Years before; the ſubſtance of which may be reduced to *Parliamentary Government*; and the People conſenting to the Laws by which they are to be Governed, that this priviledge of your Nations, may be ſo bounded, That the Churches may have both Security and Incouragement, is my great deſire, and of thoſe with me.

So that I hope you will own theſe juſt things, and give us that Aſſiſtance, which becometh the Churches of Chriſt, in purſuance of this Work; And we do aſſure you, that we ſhall comply as far as poſſible, with reſpect had to your Security, and Safety of theſe Nations, and the preſervation of our Antient Birth-Rights, and Liberties; and we ſhall pray that we may be kept from going out of Gods way, under pretence of doing Gods Work.

I do in the Name of the whole *Army*, and for my ſelf, give you all our affectionate thanks for this your Work of Love, and though we are not able to make ſuch Returns, as are in our hearts and deſires to do; yet we ſhall endeavour by all means and wayes, to expreſs our Care and Love to the Churches; and ſhall leave the Reward to him, who is the God of Peace and Truth, in ſpecial aſſured a Bleſſing to the *Peace-makers*: And conclude with the words of *David*, 1 *Sam.* 25. 32. *Bleſſed be the Lord God of Iſrael, and bleſſed be your Advice, and bleſſed be you all.* Now the Lord be a Wall of Fire round

about you, and let his preſence be in his Churches, and they filled with his Glory.

I have no more, but to intreat your Prayers for an happy Iſſue to theſe unhappy Differences; Which is the Prayer of him, who is,

Reverend Sirs, and dear Friends,

Edinburgh, *Nov.* 23. 1659.

Your very Affectionate Friend and Servant,

GFORGE MONCK.

For my Reverend Friends, Dr. Owen, *Mr.* Hook, *Mr.* Greenhil; *to be Communicated to the Churches in and about* London.

THE
Lord Generall Monck
HIS
SPEECH
Delivered by him in the
PARLIAMENT
On Munday, Feb. 6. 1659.

Mr. *Speaker*;

AMongst the many mercies of God to these poor Nations, your peaceable Restauration is not the least : it is his work alone,

and to him belongs the glory of it: and I esteem it as a great effect of his goodness to me, that he was pleased to make me amongst many worthier in your service, some way instrumental in it. I did nothing but my duty, and do not deserve to receive so great honour and respect as you are pleased to give me at this time, and place; which I shall ever acknowledge as an high mark of your favour to me. Sir, I shall not now trouble you with large Narratives, onely give me leave to acquaint you, that as I marcht from *Scotland* hither, I observed the people in most Counties in great and earnest Expectations of Settlement; and they made severall Applications to me, with numerous subscriptions: the chiefest Heads of their desires, were, for a free and full Parliament, and that you would determine your sitting; A Gospel Ministry, Incouragement of Learning and Universities, And for admittance of the Members secluded before 1648. without any previous Oath or Engagement.

To which I commonly answered, *That you are now in a free Parliament*; and if there be any force remaining upon you, I would endeavour to remove it; and that you had voted to fill up your House, and then you would be a full Parliament also; and that you had already determined your sitting: and for the Ministry, their Maintenance, the Laws and Universities, you had largely declared in your last Declaration; and I was confident you would adhere to it: but as for those Gentlemen secluded in the year 1648.

I told them you had given Judgment in it; and all people ought to acquiesce in that Judgment: but to admit any Members to sit in Parliament without a previous Oath or Engagement to secure the Government in being, it was never yet done in England.

And although I said it not then, I must say with pardon to you, That the less Oaths and Engagements are imposed, (with respect had to the security of the Common Cause) your Settlement will be the sooner attained to.

I am the more particular in these matters, to let you see how gratefull your present Consultations about these things, will be to the people.

I know all the sober Gentry will heartily close with you, if they may be tenderly and gently used; and I am sure you will so use them, as knowing it to be our common Concern, to expatiate, and not narrow our interest; and to be carefull neither the *Cavalier* nor *Phanatique party* have yet a share in your Civil or Military Power; of the last of whose impatience to Government, you have had so severe experience.

I should say something of *Ireland* and *Scotland*: Indeed *Ireland* is in an ill condition, and made worse by your sudden Interruption, which pretended the passing an Act for the settlement of the Estates of Adventures and Souldiers there, which I heard you intended to have done in a few days; and I presume it will be quickly done, being so necessary at this time; when the wants of the Common-wealth call for supplyes, and people will unwillingly pay Taxes for those Estates of which they have no legal assurance.

I need not tell you how much your favour was abused in the Nomination of your Officers of your Army there; their Malice hath been sufficiently manifested: I dare affirm that those now that have declared for you, will continue faithfull, and thereby evince that as well there, as here, it is the sober interest that must establish your Dominion.

As for *Scotland*, I must say the people of that Nation deserve much to be cherished; and I believe your late Declaration will much glad their spirits; for nothing was more dreadfull to them, then a fear to be over-run with Phanatique Notions.

I humbly recommend them to your Affection and Esteem, and desire the intended Act of Union may be prosecuted, and

their Takes made proportionable to thoſe in *England*, for which I am engaged by promiſe to be an humble Suitor to you.

And truly, Sir, I muſt ask leave to entreat you to make a ſpeedy proviſion for their Civil Government, of which they have been deſtitute near a year, to the ruine of many Families: and except Commiſſioners for management of the Government, and Judges to ſit in Courts of Judicature, be ſpedily appointed, that Coutry will be very miſerable.

I directed Mr. *Gumble* lately to preſent to you ſome Names, both of Commiſſioners and Judges: but by reaſon of your great Affairs, he was not required to deliver them in writing to you; but I now humbly preſent them to your Conſideration.

A LETTER OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE Lord Gen. Monck, TO

The Speaker of the Parliament from *Guild-Hall, London.*

Right Honourable,

IN obedience to the Commands received from the Council last night, I marched with your Forces into the City this morning, and have secured all the persons except two, ordered to be secured, which two were not to be found: The Posts and Chains I have given order to be taken away, but have hitherto forborn the taking down of

of the *Gates* and Portcullises, because it will in all likelihood exasperate the City; and I have good ground of hopes from them that they will levie the Assess; They desiring onely first to meet in Common-council, which they intend to do to morrow morning. It seems probable to me, that they will yield obedience to your Commands, and be brought to a friendly compliance with You; for which reason I have suspended the execution of Your commands touching the *Gates* and Portcullises, till I know Your further pleasure therein, which I desire I may by this Bearer: I shall onely desire that (so Your commands may be answered with due obedience) such tenderness may be used towards them, as may gain their affections: They desired the Restauration of those Members of their Common-council that are secured; which desires of theirs I shall only commend to Your grave consideration, to do therein as You shall think most expedient; and, in attendance upon Your further commands, Remain

Your most humble and obedient Servant.

Guild-Hall, Feb. 9. 1659.

GEORGE MONCK.

To the Right Honourable William Lenthal, *Speaker to the Parliament of the Common-wealth of* England *at* Westminster.

POSTSCRIPT.

I Shall become an humble Suiter to You, That You will be pleased to hasten Your Qualifications, that the Writs may be sent out; I can assure You it will tend much to the Peace of the Country, and satisfie many honest Men.

Thursday

Thurſday Afternoon, Feb. 9.

THis Letter from General *George Monck* from *Guild-Hall, London*, of the 9th of *February*, 1659. was read.

Reſolved upon the Queſtion by the Parliament,

That the Anſwer to this Letter be, to ſend General *Monck* the Reſolve of the Parliament, That the Gates of the City of *London*, and the Portculliſes thereof be forthwith deſtroyed; And that he be Ordered to put the ſaid Vote in Execution accordingly, and that Mr. *Scot* and Mr. *Pury* do go to General *Monck* and acquaint Him with theſe Votes.

Tho. St. Nicholas, *Clerk to the Parliament.*

Thurſday, February 9. 1659.

Reſolved upon the Queſtion by the Parliament,

THat the Gates of the City of *London*, and the Portculliſes thereof be forthwith deſtroyed; and that the Commiſſioners for the Army do take Order that the ſame be done accordingly.

Tho. St. Nicholas, *Clerk to the Parliament.*

A LETTER FROM His Excellencie THE LORD General Monck,

AND

The Officers under His Command, to the *Parliament*; In the Name of themselves, and the Souldiers under them: *Dated the* 11. *of* February, 1659.

With the Parliaments ANSWER thereunto.

Mr. Speaker,

WE cannot but with thankfulness acknowledge the wonderful goodness of *God* to You, in Your return to the discharge of Your remaining Trust; and Your Forces under our commands (after some difficulties) in bringing of Us by a tedious March in such safety to this place, to wait upon You in asserting the Freedoms of our Native Countrey: and being here (as we have to our utmost Hazard and Power been instrumental in your return) so we

we ſhall be ſtill ready to purſue your Commands ſo far as poſſibly we may.

To evidence which, we have obſerved and executed your late Orders in relation to the Chains, Poſts, and Gates of the City: which was ſome hing grievous to us, and to the Officers and Souldiers under our Commands; and that becauſe we do not remember any ſuch thing that was acted upon this City in all theſe Wars; and we fear that many ſober people are much grieved at it & apprehend farther force to be offered to them, while they ſeem principally to deſire the ſpeedy filling up of the Houſe, which you have declared for, as well as we have expreſs'd our juſt deſires of: and are apt to doubt, leſt what we have done may be ſo far from anſwering the expected end, as that it may encreaſe the diſcompoſure of mens ſpirits in the Nation.

Upon this occaſion, it comes freſh into our minds, that when by the treachery of ſome Officers of the Army you were interrupted: we declared to the world, *That the ground of our undertaking was not only your return to your Truſt, but alſo the Vindication of the Liberties of the People, and the preſervation of the Right of our Countrey, the protection and encouragement of the godly and faithfull therein, as the eſtabliſhment of the Peace of theſe Nations. Which declarations made before the Lord, Angels, and men, in the day of our extremity, we (as we expect the bleſſing of the Lord upon our future undertakings) cannot but ſtill own, and ſtand by.*

We find that the aſſerting of the juſt Liberties of the people, is that which the generality of the Nation is much in expectation of; and that many ſober people (together with our ſelves) are under fears, leſt this great price that God hath put into your and our hands, (as your Servants) ſhould not be improved, but that we ſhall run in confuſion again.

Therefore we humbly crave leave to preſent before you ſome grounds of our fears: we are afraid that the late wonderfull and unparallell'd deliverance, is not ſo publickly and ſolemnly acknowledged as it might be, that the Lord (who wrought ſo ſtupendiouſly) may have the glory of all: we are troubled that ſome as yet do ſit in the Houſe, who are impeached of Treaſon: we cannot but obſerve that divers Members of your Houſe, (who contrary to their truſt, acted in that Illegal and Tirannical Committee of Safety)

 are

are not actually disabled from sitting there: *Notwithstanding Colonel* Lambert *hath onely the Vote of* Indemnity *to secure him from as high Crimes as have been Committed in this Nation, and is not obedient to your Orders, yet he seemeth to be winked at.*

We understand that Sir. *Henry Vane* upon bare pretence is permitted to stay about the City, to the great dissatisfaction of your best Friends; that there are dangerous Consultations, and that of those who had a chief hand in your late Interruption, and the hazzarding of the whole Nations, contrary to our expectation.

We find continued in the Army some persons of dangerous Principles, and such who were active enough in the late Defection.

Though we are far from wishing the ruine of any, yet we could desire that your signal Indulgence to late Notorious Offenders, did meet with that Candid Reception from them, as to be so much the more ingenuous in their professed Repentance: but we observe that many of them do seek to justifie themselves, and are not without their Agents in print to palliate their foul Enormities; which maketh us yet to suspect that we are in some danger of returning into the late distempers that you and the Nation are but newly delivered from.

We are not ignorant, that there are those who lately struck at the Root of *English Parliaments* in practice and Design, thereby have inflamed the Nation, and given great advantage to the *Common Enemy*, yet they are not without a strange confidence to precipitate men into a belief, that they are not only Persons against the one, and for the other.

With grief of heart we do remember and would lament over the too palpable breach of Engagements in this Nation; Therefore we should think it a duty rather to mourn over the same, then *to promote any new Oath to be taken at this time*: Yet we perceive that there is a design to provoke the Parliament to enforce an Oath upon the Nation, and to take notice, that amongst others there are

some

ſome who are moſt forward to promote the ſaid deſign, who have made the leaſt (if any) conſcience in keeping Engagements already taken.

Here we muſt not ſilence our deep reſentment of a bold Petition, and of dangerous conſequence, which was lately preſented to you, the conſequence whereof (if you ſhould anſwer their deſires) would be to exclude many of the moſt conſcientious and ſober ſort of men from ſerving under you in Civil and Military imployments, who have and would prove themſelves moſt faithfull, and a doore would be opened in deſign to retrive the Intereſt of thoſe who have (by the juſt hand of our gracious God) made themſelves ſo apparently obnoxious.

Moreover (which is not the leaſt part of the venome of that Petition) we clearly ſee the ſame ſpirit which of late would have pull'd away the by-you-declared-juſt maintenance from Miniſters, would now provoke you by an Oath to endanger the forcing away of many of the moſt godly from their maintenance.

In urging our fears from the premiſes that concerns ſome of different principles from us, we would not be thought to (as we do not) deſign any thing that may incurre the cenſure of unjuſt rigidity.

We freely profeſs our deſires, that tenderneſs of conſcience may have its full juſt liberty, but we cannot in judgement account that tenderneſs of conſcience which will not ſcruple at treachery it ſelf, or any unrighteouſneſs to carrey on corrupt deſignes.

Having preſented you with our fears, we ſhall adde our Reſolutions, that by the help of God we ſhall ſtand by you in the purſuance of what we have declared for; And therefore do make this humble requeſt to you: we could deſire, that whilſt you ſit, your utmoſt endeavours may be to manifeſt your affectionate deſires for the publick good of theſe Nations; Our further deſire is, that thoſe Regiments under your conſideration (whoſe Officers are not) may be ſpedily paſs'd.

And in regard we find that the grand cauſe of the preſent heats and diſſatisfactions in the Nation is, becauſe they are not fully repreſented in Parliament, and ſeeing no other probible Expedient

whereby to keep the Nation in peace, then by filling up your Number; we muſt therefore make this our main deſire, upon which we cannot but inſiſt, that you would proceed to iſſue forth Writts in order to Elections: for the better effecting whereof we entreat, that you would conclude upon due and full Qualifications, *that not only thoſe who have been actually in Arms againſt the Parliament may be excluded, but alſo ſuch who in the late Wars betwixt King and Parliament, have declared their diſ-affection to the Parliament*: And becauſe the diſtracted condition of this Nation is at this hour ſo evident and preſſing, we are conſtrained *for the juſt maintenance of your Authority*, and the ſatisfaction of all true Engliſh men, earneſtly to deſire, that all the Writs may be iſſued forth by Friday next, returnable at the uſuall and legall time; For we think it convenient to acquaint you, that to pacifie the minds of this great City, in the proſecution of your late Command, the chief of us did give an aſſurance thereof.

And we muſt not forget to remember you, that the time haſtens wherein you have declared your intended Diſſolution; which the people and our ſelves deſire you would be punctual in.

Hereby the Suſpition of your Perpetuation will be taken away, and the people will have aſſurance that they ſhall have a *Succeſſion of Parliaments of their own Election; which is the undoubted Right of the* Engliſh *Nation.*

You have promiſed and declared no leſs: *both the people and your Armies do live in the hope and expectation of it.*

That we may the better wait for your full and free Concurrence to theſe juſt deſires on the Nations behalf: upon Mature deliberation we have thought it our duty as to continue the uſual Guards for the ſafety of your ſitting, ſo for the preſent to draw the reſt of the Forces under Command into the City, that we may have the better opportunity to compoſe ſpirits and beget a good underſtanding in that great City, formerly renowned for their *reſolute adhering to Parliamentary Authority*, and we hope that the ſame ſpirit will be found ſtill to breath amongſt the beſt, moſt conſiderable and intereſted perſons there.

This

This Action of ours, as we hope it will receive your favourable interpretation, so we do believe it will (through the blessing of God) be of good use for the present peace, and future settlement of these Nations.

These are our thoughts which we communicate to you, in the Names of our selves, and the Officers and Souldiers under our Commands, we are

Your Honours most Humble Servants,

White-Hall
Feb. 11. 1659.

GEORGE MONCK

Tho. Randers. *Tho. Read.*
Leon. Litcot. *Ra. Knight,*
Io. Clobery. *Dan. Redman.* } Colonels.
Io. Hublethorne.

Ethelbert Morgan, Lieut. Col.
Nathaniel Barton, Major.

Tho. Johnson.
Ier. Smith.
Tho. Pryme. } Majors.
Fra. Nichols.
Pet. Banister.

Saturday, Feb. 11.

Upon the reading of the Letter the House Resolved, That the thanks of this House be given unto General Monck *for his faithfull service in securing the City, and that as to filling up of the House, the Parliament were upon the Qualifications before the receipt of the said* Letter: *and the same will be dispatch'd in due time.*

THE

THE SPEECH AND DECLARATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY The Lord Generall MONCK,

Delivered at Whitehall upon Tuesday the 21 February, 1659.

Ordered by his Excellency the *Lord General*, that this Speech and Declaration be forthwith printed and published.

William Clarck, Secretary.

GENTLEMEN,

YOu are not I hope, ignorant, what Care and Endeavours have been used, and Means essayed, for healing the breaches of our Divisions amongst our selves, and that in order thereunto divers Conferences have been procured between you, though to small effect; yet having at length received fuller satisfaction from these worthy Gentlemen

Gentlemen that were secluded then formerly; I was bold to put you all to the trouble of this meeting, that I might open my self to you all even with more freedome then formerly: but least I might be mis-apprehended or mistaken, as of late it befell me, I have committed to writing the Heads of what I intended to discourse to you, and desire it may be read openly to you all.

THE DECLARATION OF His Excellencie THE LORD General Monck.

Delivered at VVhite Hall upon Tuesday the 21 of Feb. 1659.

GENTLEMEN,

IT appears unto me, by what I have heard from you and the whole Nation, that the Peace and happy Settlement of these bleeding Nations, next under God, lyeth in your hands.

And when I consider that *Wisdom*, *Piety*, and *Self denial*, which I have reason to be confident, loogeth in you, *and how great a share of the Nations sufferings will fall upon you, in case the* Lord *deny us now a* Settlement, I am in very good hopes there will be found in you

you all, ſuch melting bowels towards theſe poor Nations, and towards one another, that you will become *healers* and *makers* up of all its woful *Breaches*. *And that ſuch an opportunity may clearly appear to be in your hands, I thought good to aſſure you, and that in the preſence of God, that I have nothing before my eyes but Gods glory, and the ſettlement of theſe Nations, upon Common-wealth Foundations.* In purſuit whereof I ſhall think nothing to dear; And for my own particular I ſhall throw my ſelf down at your *feet, to be any thing or nothing in order to theſe great Ends.* As to the way of future Settlement, far be it from me to impoſe any thing, I deſire you may be in perfect Freedom; Onely give me leave to mind you, *That the old Foundations are by Gods Providence ſo broken, that in the eye of Reaſon, they cannot be reſtored, but upon the ruines of the People of theſe Nations, that have engaged for their Rights in defence of the Parliament, and the great and main ends of the Covenant for uniting and making the Lords name One in the three Nations: And alſo the Liberty of the* Peoples Repreſentatives *in* Parliament *will be certainly loſt*, For if the People finde, that after ſo long and bloody a war, againſt the King for breaking in upon their Liberties, yet at laſt he muſt be taken in again, it will be out of queſtion, and is moſt manifeſt, he may for the future govern by his will, diſpoſe of Parliaments, and Parliament-Men as he pleaſeth, and yet the people will never more riſe for their aſſiſtance.

And as to the intereſts of this famous City (which hath been in all ages the Bulwork of Parliaments, and unto whom I am for their great affection ſo deeply engaged) *Certainly it muſt lie in a Commonwealth*; *That* Government *onely*, being capable to make them (through the Lords bleſſing) the *Metropolis* and *Bank* of Trade for all Chriſtendom, whereunto God and Nature hath fitted them above all others.

And as to a Government in the Church, the want whereof hath been no ſmall cauſe of theſe Nations diſtractions; It is moſt manifeſt, *that if it be* Monarchicall *in the State, the Church muſt follow, and* Prelacy *muſt be brought in, which theſe Nations I know cannot bear, and againſt which they have ſo ſolemnly Sworn.*

And indeed moderate not rigid *Presbyterian Government*, with a ſufficient Liberty for *Conſciences* truly tender, appears at preſent to be the moſt indifferent and acceptable *way* to the Churches *Settlement*.

The

The main thing that ſeems to lye in the way, is the intereſt of the *Lords*, even of thoſe *Lords* who have ſhewed themſelves noble indeed, *by joyning with the people; and in defence of thoſe juſt rights, have adventured their deareſt blood and large Eſtates.* To that I ſhall onely ſay, that though the ſtate of theſe Nations be ſuch, *as cannot bear their ſitting in a diſtinct Houſe*, yet certainly, the wiſdom of Parliament will find out ſuch *Hereditary* marks of honour for them, as may make them more noble to after ages.

Gentlemen, upon the whole matter the beſt reſult that I can make at preſent for the peace of theſe Nations will be in my opinion, that you forthwith ſit together in Parliament: In order,

1. To the ſetling the conduct of Armies of the three Nations in that manner, as they may be ſerviceable to the peace and ſafty of them, and not to its own and the Nations ruine, by Faction and Diviſion.

2. To the providing ſufficient Maintenance for them; That is for the Forces by Land, and for the Navy by Sea, and all their Arrears of both, and other contingencies of the Government.

3. To the appointing a Council of State with Authority to ſettle the Civil Government and Judicatories in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and to take care for the iſſuing forth Writs, for the ſummoning of a *Parliament* of theſe three Nations united, to meet at *Weſtminſter* the 20. day of *April* next, *with ſuch qualifications as may ſecure the Publick Cauſe we are all ingaged in*, and according to ſuch Diſtributions as were uſed in the year, 1654. Which *Parliament*, ſo called, may meet and act in freedom, for the more full eſtabliſhing of this Common-Wealth, *without a King, ſingle Perſon, or Houſe of Lords.*

4. To a Legal Diſſolution of this *Parliament* to make way for *ſucceſſion of Parliaments*,

And in order to theſe good ends, the Guards will not onely willingly admit you, but faithfully both my ſelf, and every the Officers under my command, and (I believe) the Officers and Souldiers of the three Nations *will ſpend their blood for you and ſucceſſive Parliaments.*

If your *Conjunction* be directed to this end, you may part honourably, having made a fair ſtep to the ſettlement of theſe Nations, by making *a way for ſucceſſive Parliaments.*

But I muſt needs ſay, that if any different Councels ſhould be taken (which I have no reaſon to fear:) theſe Nations would preſently be thrown back into force and violence, and all hopes of this much deſired eſtabliſhment buried in diſorder, which the Lord in his great mercy I hope will prevent. And ſo God ſpeed you well together, and unite your hearts for the preſervation of Peace and ſettlement of theſe Nations to his own Glory and yours, and all our Comforts.

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A

LETTER

From His Excellency the

Lord General MONCK,

And the Officers under his Command; to the Parliament, in the name of themselves and the Souldiers under them.

Mr. Speaker,

WE cannot but with thankfulneſſe acknowledge the wonderful Goodneſſe of God to you in your return to the Diſcharge of your remaining Truſt; to our ſelves, and your Forces under our Commands, (after ſome difficulties) in bringing of us, by a tedious March, in ſuch ſafty to this place, to wait upon you in aſſerting the freedoms of our native Country: and being here (as wee have to our utmoſt hazard and power been inſtrumental in your Return, ſo) we ſhall be ready to purſue your Commands ſo far as poſſibly we may. To evidence which, we have obſerved and executed your late Orders in relation to the Chairs, Poſts,

and Gates of the City, which was ſomething grievous to Us, and to the Officers and Souldiers under our Commands; and that becauſe we do not remember any ſuch thing was acted upon this City in all theſe wars; and we fear that many ſober people are much grieved at it, and apprehend further force to be offered to them, while they ſeem principally to deſire the ſpeedy filling up of the Houſe, which you have declared for, aſwell as we have expreſt our juſt deſires of, and are apt to doubt, leſt, what we have done may be ſo far from anſwering the expected end, as that it may increaſe the diſcompoſure of mens ſpiries in the Nation. Upon this occaſion, it comes freſh into our minds, that when by the trechery of ſome Officers of the Army you were interrupted, we declared to the world That *the ground of our undertaking was not onely your return to your Truſt*, but alſo, *the Vindication of the Liberties of the people, and the Preſervation of the Rights of our Country, and protection and encouragement of the godly and faithful therein, as the eſtabliſhment of the peace of theſe Nations.* Which Declarations made before the Lord, Angels and Men, in the day of our extreamity, we (as we expect the bleſſing of the Lord upon our future undertakings) cannot but ſtill own, and ſtand by.

We find that the aſſertiug of the juſt Liberties of the People, is that which the generality of the Nation is much in expectation of; and that many ſober people (together with our ſelves) are under fears leſt this great price that God hath put into your and our hands, (as your Servants) ſhould not be improved, but that we ſhall run in Confuſion again. Therefore we humbly crave leave to preſent before you ſome grounds of our fears: We are afraid that the late wonderful and unparalel'd Deliverance, is not ſo publickly and ſolemnly acknowledged as it might be, that the Lord (who wrought ſo ſtupendiouſly) may have the Glory of all: We are troubled that ſome as yet do ſit in the Houſe, who are impeached of Treaſon: We cannot but obſerve that divers Members of your Houſe, (who contrary to their Truſt, acted in that illegal and Tyrannical Committee of Safety) are not actually diſabled from ſitting there: notwithſtanding Colonel *Lambert* hath onely the Vote of Indemnity to ſecure him from as high Crimes as have been committed in this

Nation,

Nation, and is not obedient to your Orders, yet he ſeemeth to be winked at. We underſtand that Sir *Henry Vane* upon bare pretence is permitted to ſtay about the City, to the great diſſatisfaction of your beſt Friends; That there are dangerous Conſultations, and that of thoſe who had a chief hand in your late interruption, and the hazarding of the whole Nations, contrary to our expectation. We find continued in the Army ſome Perſons of dangerous Principles, and ſuch who were active enough in the late Detection. Though we are far from wiſhing the ruine of any, yet we could deſire that your ſignal indulgence to late notorious Offenders, did meet with that candid reception from them, as to be ſo much the more ingenuous in their profeſſed repentance: But we obſerve that many of them do ſeek to juſtifie themſelves, and are not without their Agents in print to palliate their ſoul Enormities; which maketh us yet to ſuſpect that we are in ſome danger of returning to the late diſtempers that You and the Nation are but newly delivered from.

We are not ignorant, that there are thoſe who lately ſtruck at the Root of *Engliſh Parliaments* in Practice and Deſign, thereby have inflamed the Nation, and given great advantage to the Common Enemy, yet they are not without a ſtrange confidence to precipitate men into a belief, that they are the onely Perſons againſt the one, and for the other. With grief of heart we do remember and would lament over the too palpable Breach of Engagements in this Nation; Therefore we ſhould think it a duty rather to mourn over the ſame, then to promote any new Oath to be taken at this time. Yet we perceive that there is a deſigne to provoke the Parliament to enforce an Oath upon the *Nation*, and do take notice, that amongſt others, there are ſome who are moſt forward to promote the ſaid deſigne, who have made the leaſt (if any) Conſcience in keeping Engagements already taken. Here we muſt not ſilence our firſt reſentment of a bold Petition, and of dangerous conſequence, which was lately preſented to you, the conſequence whereof (if you ſhould anſwer their deſires) would be to exclude many of the moſt conſcientious and ſober ſort of men from ſerving under you in Civil and Military Imployments, who have and will prove themſelves

ſelves moſt faithful; and a Door would be opened in deſigne to retrive the Intereſt of thoſe who have (by the juſt Hand of our Gracious God) made themſelves ſo apparently obnoxious. Moreover (which is not the leaſt part of the venome of that Petition) we clearly ſee the ſame ſpirit, which of late would have pull'd away the by-you declared-juſt Maintenance from Miniſters, would now provoke you by an Oath to endanger the forcing away of many of the moſt Godly from their Maintenance. In urging our fears from the premiſes that concerns ſome of different Principles from us, we would not be thought to (as we do not) deſign any thing that may incur the cenſure of unjuſt rigidity. We freely profeſſe our deſires, that tenderneſſe of Conſcience may have its full juſt liberty, but we cannot in judgment count that tenderneſſe of Conſcience which will not ſcruple at treachery it ſelf, or any unrighteouſneſſe to carry on corrupt deſignes.

Having preſented You with our fears, we ſhall adde our Reſolution, That by the help of God we ſhall ſtand by you in the purſuance of what we have declared for: And therefore do make this humble requeſt to You. We could deſire, That whilſt you ſit, your utmoſt endeavours may be to manifeſt your affectionate deſires for the Publick Good of theſe *Nations*; Our further deſires is, That thoſe Regiments under your conſideration (whoſe Officers who are not) may be ſpeedily paſſed. And in regard we find that the Grand Cauſe of the preſent Heats and Diſ-ſatisfactions in the *Nation* is, becauſe they are not fully Repreſented in Parliament, and ſeeing no other probable expedient whereby to keep the *Nation* in peace, then by filling up your numbers; We muſt therefore make this our main deſire, upon which we cannot but inſiſt, that you would proceed to iſſue forth Writs in Order to Elections: For the better effecting whereof we entreat, That you would conclude upon due and full Qualifications, that not onely thoſe who have been actually in Arms againſt the Parliament may be excluded, but alſo ſuch who in the late Wars betwixt King and Parliament have Declared their Diſaffection to the Parliament: And becauſe the diſtracted condition of this *Nation* is at this hour ſo evident and preſſing, we are conſtrained for the juſt maintenance

nance of your Authority and the satisfaction of all true English-Men, earnestly to desire, That all the Writs may be issued forth by *Friday* next, returnable at the usual and legal time, For we think it convenient to acquaint you, that to pacifie the minds of this great City, in the prosecution of your late Commands, the Chief of Us did give an assurance thereof.

And we must not forget to rememeber you, that the time hastens wherein you have Declared your intended Dissolution, which the people and our selves desire you would be punctual in. Hereby the Suspition of your perpetuation will be taken away, and the People will have assurance that they shall have a Succession of Parliaments of their own Election; which is the undoubted Right of the English Nation: you have promised and Declared no lesse: Both the People and your Armies do live in the hope and expectation of it. That we may the better wait for your full and free concurrence to these just Desires on the Nations behalf, upon Mature Deliberation, we have thought it our duty as to continue the usual Guards for the safety of your sitting, so for the present to draw the rest of the Forces under our Command into the City, that we may have the better opportunity to compose Spirits, and beget a good understanding in that great City, formerly renowned for their resolute adhering to the Parliamentary Authority, and we hope that the same Spirit will be found still to breath amongst the best, most considerable and and interessed Persons there. This Action of ours, as we hope it will receive your favourable interpretation, so we do believe it will (through the blessing of God) be of good use for the present Peace, and future settlement of these Nations. These are our thoughts which we communicate to you, in the Names of our selves, and the

Officers

Officers and Souldiers under our Commands, We are,

Your Honours most
Humble Servants

White Hall,
Feb. 11. 1659.

GEORGE MONCK.

Tho. Sanders. *Tho. Read.*
Leon Litcot. *Ra. Knight.*
Jo. Clobery. *Dan. Redman* } Colonels.
Jo. Hubblethorne.

Ethelbert Morgan, Lieut. Col.

Nathaniel Barton, Major.

Tho Johnson.
Jer. Smith.
Phil. Pryme. } Majors.
Fra. Nichols.
Peter Banister

A LETTER

From the

Lord General MONCK,

And the Officers here, to the ſeveral and reſpective Regiments, and other Forces in *England Scotland* and *Ireland*.

Dear Brethren and Fellow-Souldiers,

YOU cannot be ignorant of the many endeavours, and earneſt Deſires of many good men in theſe *Nations*, to bring us to a Settlement; which it hath pleaſed God to diſ-appoint unto this day, and leave us as a broken and divided people, ready to run into Blood and confuſion: which that we might prevent ſo great Calamities impending, after our earneſt ſeeking God for his Direction and Aſſiſtance, we find no Expedient ſo likely, for the ſatisfaction of the good People, and the quiet and welfare of this Common-Wealth, as the re-admiſſion of the Secluded Members, in order to a Legal Diſſolution of this Parliament by their own free conſents; and to iſſue Writs for a future Full Repreſentative of

the whole Common-Wealth of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, *under such Qualifications, as may secure our Cause*, to convene on the twentieth of *April* next at *Westminster*, for the establishing this Common Wealth upon *the foundations of Justice and true Freedom*. And to take away all just Jealousies from you, we do assure you, that we shall joyn with you in the maintenance of those ends expressed in the enclosed; and do expect your chearful concurrence with us. *And we desire to take God to witnesse, that we have no intentions or Purposes to return to our old Bondage: but since the Providence of God hath made us free at the cost of so much Blood, we hope we shall never be found so unfaithful to God and his People, as to lose so glorious a Cause. But we do resolve with the Assistance of God, to adhere to you in the continuing of our dear purchased Liberties both Spiritual and Civil.* The reason of our Proceedings in this manner may seem strange: but if you duly consider the necessities of our Affairs, and the present state of things, you will certainly conclude nothing so safe to secure Publick Interest, and to engage the Nations Peaceably *to submit to a Free State*; most of these Members having given us full assurance, that their Session in Parliament shall not be longer than absolute necessity will require, *to the putting the Government into Successive Parliaments; they not being free so to Act by the old Writs, as when they shall be called upon a Common-Wealth Account*; and *its the Opinion of the truest Friends to a Free State, That it cannot be consistent with the perpetual sitting of these Members, being contrary to the Nature of such a Government.*

That was his Speech at the re-admitting the secluded Members.

And as we are confident *the present Parliament now sitting*, will not Repeal any of the Acts, Ordinances, or Orders of this Parliament, for Sales or Publick Disposition of Lands; so we shall in our Station observe, and cause to be observed, all other Acts and Ordinances of this Parliament whatsoever; and humbly interpose with the next succeeding Parliament, not only to passe a further Act of Confirmation of all such Sales and Dispositions of Lands, here & in *Scotland*, but also of all the Distributions and Dispositions of Lands and Houses in *Ireland*, to the Souldiery, Adventurers, or any other Persons, made by or in pursuance of any of the Acts, Ordinances, or Orders of *this present Parliament*, or *any pretended Parliamentary Authority*.

And

And we entreat You to send up an Officer, to give to the Lord General *Monck* an Account of Your Acquiescence with Us herein. *And if any disaffected Persons shall hereby take occasion to make disturbance of the Peace of the Common Wealth either in favour of* CHARLES STUART, *or any other pretended Authority*, We desire you to secure them, till the pleasure of the Parliament or Council of State be known in that behalf: you shall speedly receive Encouragement & supplies of Monies: and indeed, it was not the least Motive to induce us to this way of Composure of Affairs, that we might facilitate the raising of Monies for the subsistance of the Army and Navy; which would not otherwise have been done (if at all) but with effusion of Blood. We have nothing more at this time, but to assure you that we shall ever remain,

White Hall
Feb. 21. 1659.

Dear Brethren and Fellow-Soldiers,
Your very Affectionate Friends,

GEORGE MONCK.

R. Knight	*William Eyre*	Cols	*Jo. Butler.* Quart. Ma. Gen.	L. Cols
John Clobery	*Rich. Mosse*		*Ethelbert Morgan*	
Tho. Read	*William Farley*		*James Mutlow*	
Jo. Hubblethorne	*Arthur Evelin*		*James Emerson*	
Leonard Litcot	*John Streater*		*Joseph Witter*	
Tho. Sanders			*Dennis Pepper.*	

James Dennis	*Jer. Smith*	Majs.	*W Goodwin*	Capts.
Rich Wagstaff	*Nath. Barton*		*Hen. Ogle*	
Tho. Johnson	*Tho. Higgs*			
Fra. Nichols	*John Clark*			